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Washington Times

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Computer hackers could disable military

System compromised in secret exercise

By Bill Gertz THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Senior Pentagon leaders were stunned by a military exercise showing how easy it is for hackers to cripple U.S. military and civilian computer networks, according to new details of the secret exercise.

Using software obtained easily from hacker sites on the Internet, a group of National Security Agency officials could have shut down the U.S. electric-power grid within days and rendered impotent the command-and-control elements of the U.S. Pacific Command, said officials familiar with the war game, known as Eligible Receiver.

"The attack was actually run in a two-week period and the results were frightening," said a defense official involved in the game.

Pentagon spokesman Kenneth Bacon said, "Eligible Receiver was an important and revealing exercise that taught us that we must be better organized to deal with potential attacks against our computer systems and information infrastructure."

The secret exercise began last June after months of preparation by the NSA computer specialists who, without warning, targeted computers used by U.S. military forces in the Pacific and in the United States.

The game was simple: Conduct information warfare attacks, or "infowar," on the Pacific Command and ultimately force the United States to soften its policies toward the crumbling communist regime in Pyongyang. The "hackers" posed as paid surrogates for North Korea.

The NSA "Red Team" of makebelieve hackers showed how easy it is for foreign nations to wreak electronic havoc using computers, modems and software technology widely available on the darker regions of the Internet: networkscanning software, intrusion tools and password-breaking "log-in scripts."

According to U.S. officials who took part in the exercise, within days the team of 50 to 75 NSA officials had inflicted crippling damage.

They broke into computer networks and gained access to the systems that control the electrical power grid for the entire country. If they had wanted to, the hackers could have disabled the grid, leaving the United States in the dark.

Groups of NSA hackers based in Hawaii and other parts of the United States floated effortlessly through global cyberspace, breaking into unclassified military computer networks in Hawaii, the headquarters of the U.S. Pacific Command, as well as in Washington, Chicago, St. Louis and parts of Colorado.

"The attacks were not actually run against the infrastructure components because we don't want to do things like shut down the power grid," said a defense official involved in the exercise. "But the referees were shown the attacks and shown the structure of the power-grid control, and they agreed, yeah, this attack would have shut down the power grid."

Knocking out the electrical power throughout the United States was just a sideline for the NSA cyberwarriors. Their main

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target was the U.S. Pacific Command, which is in charge of the 100,000 troops that would be called on to deal with wars in Korea or China.

"The most telling thing for the Department of Defense, when all was said and done, is that basically for a two-week period the command-and-control capability in the Pacific theater would have been denied by the 'infowar' attacks, and that was the period of the exercise," the official said.

The attackers also foiled virtually all efforts to trace them. FBI

agents joined the Pentagon in trying to find the hackers, but for the most part they failed. Only one of the several NSA groups, a unit based in the United States, was uncovered. The rest operated without being located or identified.

The attackers breached the Pentagon's unclassified global computer network using Internet service providers and dial-in connections that allowed them to hop around the world.

"It's a very, very difficult security environment when you go

through different hosts and different countries and then pop up on the doorstep of Keesler Air Force Base [in Mississippi], and then go from there into Cincpac," the official said, using the acronym for the Commander in Chief, Pacific.

The targets of the network attacks also made it easy. "They just were not security-aware," said the official.

A second official found that many military computers used the word "password" for their confidential access word.

New York Times

April 16, 1998

Congress Probes Sales of Satellite Technology to China

By Jeff Gerth

WASHINGTON -- Several congressional committees are investigating whether the administration's policy of exporting space satellite technology to China has helped China and other countries to develop and use nuclear missiles.

The inquiries come after recent articles in The New York Times disclosing a Pentagon finding that the reliability of China's nuclear missiles was significantly advanced in 1996 after scientists working for American space satellite companies provided Beijing with expertise on guidance systems. The technology needed to put a commercial satellite in orbit is similar to that which guides a long-range nuclear missile to its target.

"I'm not blaming China," said Sen. Thad Cochran, R-Miss. "We're talking about our own government policy-makers responsible for the transfer of this technology, and this case is a glaring example."

President Clinton, after being lobbied by leading American aerospace executives who were also major campaign donors, made it easier for them to export satellites. But administration officials say they kept strict safeguards in place to protect against the risks inherent in transferring sensitive technology -- equipment or expertise -- that may have military applications.

Cochran is the chairman of the Senate Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on International Security, Proliferation and Federal Services, which oversees proliferation and export policy. He said the panel would look at the 1996 China case in future hearings.

The case involves scientists from Loral Space & Communications and Hughes Electronics who helped the Chinese figure out what went wrong when a Chinese rocket carrying a Loral satellite exploded.

Both companies have said their employees acted properly.

Loral's president and chief operating officer, Gregory Clark, said at a meeting in Tokyo on Wednesday that Loral's employees "did not divulge any information that was inappropriate," Reuters reported.

A criminal investigation, prompted by the Pentagon study, is examining whether the companies violated laws governing the export of military-

related exports, officials said.

The Joint Economic Committee will investigate the satellite case for coming hearings on the economic impact of the transfer.to China of sensitive technology, an aide said Wednesday.

A member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Rep. Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., has asked the committee to review the Pentagon study and analyze the national security implications, according to an aide.

Ms. Pelosi, a critic of the president's China policy, said she was particularly upset with Clinton's decision in February to approve the export to China of a Loral satellite despite the objections of the Justice Department. She felt the presidential waiver undercut any

possible prosecution.

"It is ironic that the president issued this special waiver saying it was in our national interest, at the same time the Chinese were planning to sell weapons-of-mass-destruction technology to Iran, in spite of signing another agreement not to do so in October 1997," Ms. Pelosi said.

There are powerful conflicts in the debate. The end of the cold war is a golden opportunity to sell American technology abroad. The friendlier the buyer, the looser the controls.

But the most coveted U.S. technology can be difficult to control because it has dual uses and the controls are only as good as the weakest link. China has shared some of its missile technology with rogue nations like Iran.

USA Today

April 16, 1998

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Russian agencies denied U.S. aid

By Peter Eisler USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — The State Department has declared 20 Russian agencies and research facilities ineligible to receive millions of dollars in U.S. government assistance because they may have provided missile technology to Iran.

The State Department's list, obtained by USA TODAY, was sent in March to managers of U.S. programs that finance commercial ventures for Russian institutions formerly involved in Soviet weapons

work

Since then, U.S. officials have denied funding to at least three Russian projects because they were on the list. Future projects with institutions on the list will be rejected unless the Clinton administration is satisfied they aren't helping Iran.

Despite longstanding concerns about the exodus of weapons technology from Russia to rogue states, the move marks the first time specific institutions have been penalized

"What we're doing is limiting our cooperation with Russian entities which might have or might be providing assis-

tance to Iran's missile program," said Gary Samore, special assistant to the president on non-proliferation and export controls. "If someone came to us proposing a project involving one of these entities, we might still approve it, depending on the specifics."

The government spends nearly \$50 million a year on ventures for former Soviet institutions that have struggled since the Communist regime's demise.

The idea is to keep their scientists engaged in non-military projects —instead of having them sell their weapons know-how to the highest bid-

der.

The State Department's list, based on information gathered by U.S. intelligence agencies, includes Russian institutions ranging from universities to government agencies.

The 20 institutions are a small fraction of Russian entities involved in non-proliferation projects funded by two U.S. assistance programs launched in 1994.

The Russian Space Agency

— a major U.S. partner in de-

veloping an international space station and other costly endeavors — was included on the State Department's list. But department officials said it was included in error.

Among the projects denied U.S. funding since March:

- A proposed project at Baltic State Technical University in St. Petersburg to apply rocket motor technology in the high-temperature destruction of chemical wastes.
 - A project involving

TsAGI, Russia's Central Aerodynamic Institute, on using aerospace technology to develop high-tech plastic joints for industry.

 A project led by the Moscow Aviation Institute to develop new methods for evaluating the thermal properties of composite materials.

Michael Shurgalin, a spokesman at the Russian Embassy, denied the Russian institutions were helping Iran with missile technology. He said Russia has taken internal steps to curtail illegal trafficking.

The Clinton administration opposes sanctions against Russia, preferring a policy of engagement, including financial assistance programs.

But Israel and some in Congress want Russia punished, saying there is strong evidence that Russia, China and North Korea help Iran's efforts to develop mid-range missiles.

USA Today

April 16, 1998

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Funding ban for Russian agencies a delicate issue

U.S. holding talks this week in Moscow

By Peter Eisler USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — The State Department's new move to bar 20 Russian institutions from U.S. government funding because of suspected ties to Iran's missile program is a political and diplomatic balancing act.

The issue of Russian assistance to Iran has been discussed by President Clinton and Russian officials since 1995.

But it is especially sensitive now: Robert Gallucci, the new U.S. presidential envoy, is to hold talks this week in Moscow where he is expected to press Russian officials on technology transfers to Iran.

At issue are programs aimed at providing nonmilitary, commercial opportunities for Russian research facilities, agencies and scientists once employed in Soviet weapons development.

These days, they're having a tough time, and without engaging those institutions, the Clinton administration says, they're likely to sell technology and know-how to rogue states.

In recent months, some U.S. allies, particularly Israel, along with some members of Congress, have raised an outcry over intelligence reports that Iran is getting substantial help from Russia in developing midrange missiles that could be used to hit the Middle East and parts of Europe.

In response, the State Department is trying to take action against the specific Russian institutions believed to be helping Iran — but not issue formal sanctions against Russia.

The result: New limits on U.S. government assistance programs.

On March 19, officials at U.S. national laboratories involved in administering the programs received a memo from program managers.

The memo said the managers had been "advised by the Department of State that the following Russian institutes or agencies are currently not eligible to participate in U.S. government-funded programs pending senior-level" discussions.

The attached list of Russian institutions included at least a half-dozen that have received some U.S. assistance in the past, according to federal officials involved in the matter.

Two programs are affected:

▶ The Initiatives for Proliferation Prevention (IPP), a Department of Energy program that finds commercial applications for weapons technology. Through such U.S. labs as Los Alamos and Lawrence Livermore, it pairs U.S. industries with partners in the former Soviet states.

▶ The International Science and Technology Centers (ISTC) program, a multination effort to fund nonmilitary research and commercial conversion projects for scientists and facilities formerly employed in the Soviet weapons program. The

State Department coordinates U.S. participation in the program.

The amount of money involved is small: The U.S. spent just under \$50 million last year. But the political implications are significant.

The administration faces "a very difficult problem, one where there's no easy line to draw between publicly embarrassing and publicly pressuring" the Russians, says Anthony Cordesman of the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

Russians are quick to point to several new controls they say they've instituted to block any migration of missile technology to Iran.

"Russia has not and will not take part in any country's efforts to create missile delivery means for weapons of mass destruction," Gennadi Tarasov, spokesman for the Russian Foreign Ministry, said in February.

But many in Congress are pushing for formal sanctions against Russia.

In a January report, the Senate subcommittee on international security made an extensive case, based on press reports and testimony by administration officials, that Iran continues to get missile technology from Russia.

Said Sen. Thad Cochran, R-Miss., the subcommittee chairman: "The Clinton administration has not been willing to take the tough actions necessary to back up its rhetoric."

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European Stars & Stripes

April 16, 1998

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Force in the shadows

Macedonia mission dimmed by other Balkan efforts

By Vince Crawley Staff writer

SKOPJE, Macedonia — Almost as soon as Pvt. 2 Jeffery Barnaby arrived for peacekeeping duty in Macedonia a month ago, his parents sent him an emergency Red Cross message.

A worried Barnaby, 20, didn't know the contents of the message, only that he needed to call his parents in Mansfield,

"I had a nightmare thinking my brother had got into an accident," the infantryman said. He sweated out the news until his leaders could get him to a telephone at a camp away from his border patrol station. And, because of the time difference, he had to wait until late evening before anyone was home.

Then he learned what all the fuss was about – his parents wanted to know if he was involved in last month's flare-up of violence in nearby Kosovo.

"I kind of got mad at mom, sending me a Red Cross message instead of just writing me." he said.

Still, he assured his concerned mother that he wasn't in volved in the fighting, which left about 80 people dead in the Kosovo region of Serbia.

"I told them not to worry much about me," Barnaby said. "The only way we're going to shoot is if somebody's shooting at us."

That scenario is unlikely as Americans approach their fifth year of patrolling Macedonia's border with Serbia. By Balkan standards, the roughly 60 miles of mountainous border are surprisingly peaceful even though it sits next to some of the region's most volatile powder kegs.

Barnaby's outfit is the 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment, based in Schweinfurt, Germany. The soldiers were supposed to have a quiet six months, kind of a caretaker shift in a U.N. mission that diplomats said would almost certainly end for good this August. Numbering 500 last

year, the U.S. troops have been cut to 350 and were making plans for a final exit.

By all accounts, their mission has been completely overshadowed by the violence and reconstruction in nearby Bosnia, where two years ago 20,000 American troops led one of the largest, most heavily armed peacekeeping forces ever fielded.

Then, in late February and early March of this year, just as the Schweinfurt infantrymen were taking their border posts, Serbian police launched a massive armed campaign in Kosovo against ethnic Albanian separatists they claimed were responsible for terrorist attacks against police.

About 25 Albanian women and children got caught in the killing, and violence in Yugoslavia was once again in the world's news.

"A lot of people have been real concerned about what's going on in Kosovo," said Spec. Jim Brown, 27, said of his relatives back home in Monroe, Ga. "Anything that shows up in the newspaper, anything that says Kosovo and Macedonia in the same paragraph, they normally assume we're in the midst of it."

With Balkan instability back in the spotlight, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Strobe Talbott, visiting Macedonia last month, called for some kind of international force to remain after the end of the U.N. mandate in August.

Defense Secretary William Cohen last week upped the ante, saying he expects the United States will keep its 350 peacekeepers in Macedonia beyond next summer.

The United Nations considers Macedonia a success story—the only time a peace force has made a preemptive strike, deploying before a conflict started instead of after one exploded.

"It's a bit of a laboratory in that sense because preventive peacekeeping has never been done before," said Marc McEvoy, spokesman for U.N. forces in Macedonia.

The Americans make up not quite half of the 750 U.N. troops, and McEvoy said their presence — with colorful American flags sewn on their shoulders — far out-weighs their relatively small numbers. "I don't think you can overstate the effect of having U.S. troops sitting on the Serbian border as a psychological deterrent."

Macedonia declared its independence in 1991, prompting the Yugoslav army to remove nearly all heavy weapons except four helicopters and "four tanks that wouldn't start," said Maj. Ches Garner, operations officer for the U.S. task force.

With about 20,000 drafted soldiers and no money to buy arms, the landlocked country of 2 million considers the United Nations, and particularly the United States, vital to its survival.

Macedonia has major political disputes with each of its four neighbors, one of which — Serbia — began the Bosnian war in 1992.

Another neighbor, Albania, disintegrated into an almost Somalia-like level of armed chaos early last year, and Nordic soldiers patrolling that border daily report dozens of random potshots.

Albanians, who are the ethnic Muslims living south of Bosnia, make up between 22 and 30 percent of the people in Macedonia, depending on who's doing the counting. They also make up 90 percent of Kosovo.

Kosovo is the site of an ancient battlefield, and many Serbs regard it as nearly sacred ground, like the American Gettysburg or France's Omaha Beach. If widespread fighting does break out there, Albanians in Macedonia have issued strong hints that they would rush to the assistance of their ethnic cousins.

"It's a concern," McEvoy said at the U.N. headquarters in Macedonia's capital of Skopje.

The ebb and flow of such a battle could easily bring Serbian forces up to and across the frontiers of Macedonia. U.N. troops watch over the main crossing points, but they haven't the weapons — or mission — to do anything but act as bystanders.

"We can't set up defensive lines," McEvoy said. "We can't protect the country. We can't shoot anybody except in selfdefense."

Then there's Bulgaria, to the east. That country's president recently promised that, if Kosovo imploded, he would dispatch troops to Macedonia's defense, using the reasoning that Macedonia is practically a province of Bulgaria.

Macedonians aren't sure they want to welcome this offer of kinship, fearing they might not exist as in independent country after the melee is finished.

Meanwhile, in Albania 600,000 weapons were stolen from government armories during a collapse of law and order last year.

Macedonia and Albania have signed a mutual defense agreement, but no one is quite certain what would happen if all those citizens bearing illegal arms felt they needed to rush to the assistance of neighbors.

To the south lies another quarrelsome neighbor — Greece. In the past Greece has refused to recognize the country because its uses the name "Macedonia." The Greeks have maintained that the name is intrinsically Greek and should not be used by a foreign country. This dispute is the reason that Macedonia carries the convoluted name of "Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia."

These complex borders are the reason that Balkan watchers warn of a regional war if someplace like Kosovo goes ballistic. Even if widespread fighting doesn't materialize, the Macedonians warn of 200,000 to 400,000 Albanians fleeing from Kosovo, creating an epic human crisis that none of its neighboring countries can handle.

During the recent clashes in Kosovo, though, U.N. troops reported all quiet on the Macedonian front.

"There's been no change," McEvoy said, "no visible evidence of refugees going across

the border."

So the few hundred Americans continue to patrol their quiet borders while fielding curious phone calls and letters from home. Not all families back in the States are worried, said Spec. Jerry Jordan, 28, of Oxnard, Calif.

"It's off the radar scope back there," Jordan said. "They don't even realize that we're

here."

But Barnaby, the infantry private from Louisiana, said that so far he's glad to be a part of the Balkan peace force.

"It's changed my view of life a lot," he said, sitting inside sleeping quarters at one of the remote border posts. "I've learned to appreciate what I have."

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Qatar begins military drills

Qatari troops started military exercises Wednesday in the Persian Gulf state of Oatar, a Qatari general said. The 12-day maneuvers involve land, air United States to station military and sea forces and are designed to improve Qatar's defense capabilities, Brig. Gen.

Hamad al-Attiyah said.

The United States maintains close ties with Qatar, a tiny country on the Arabian DOHA, Qatar - U.S. and Peninsula that sits on the world's third-largest reserves of natural gas.

> Oatar announced in February that it would allow the planes on its territory as part of a defense agreement signed in 1992.

USA Today

April 16, 1998

Pg. 3

Navy stops train carrying napalm to Ind.

By Debbie Howlett **USA TODAY**

EAST CHICAGO, Ind. -Residents of this gritty steel town who pressured a local company to back out of recycling millions of pounds of Vietnam-era napalm won a second victory Wednesday: The Navy halted the shipment in Karisas City, Mo.

Navy officials ordered the freight car with two steel containers holding 12,000 gallons of napalm sidelined until a new destination could be chosen. The Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway, which was carrying the napalm, was expecting word of that destination by midday today.

The situation is reminiscent of the voyage of the infamous Long Island garbage barge. It floated in the Atlantic Ocean for five months in 1987 while five states and three countries refused to allow it to unload. New York finally agreed to take it back.

The Navy could send the napalm back to the Fallbrook Naval Weapons Station near San Diego, where 3.3 million gallons of the Vietnam-era chemical are being stored.

Or officials could send it to one of the three other industrial recycling sites, two in Texas and one in Missouri, that bid on the disposal project.

But it will not be going to East Chicago.

The flap came to a head earlier this week when Pollution Control Industries refused to take possession of the napalm. one of the most terrifying weapons of the Vietnam era.

"There was just too much public pressure," PCI president Robert Campbell says.

It started over the Christmas holidays when Rep. Rod Blagojevich, D-Ill., was poring over some military documents and stumbled on a contract for a napalm recycling project in East Chicago.

"They never, ever told us about it," he says.

But the greatest weight was brought to bear by residents of East Chicago, a town of 33,000 about 30 miles southeast of Chicago.

A generation ago, the steel mills and oil companies were running three shifts a day, seven days a week. People seemed resigned to the sooty price of prosperity.

"They were dirty, but at least they gave us good jobs with medical insurance," says Betty Balanoff, who has lived in the area with her steelworker husband, James, for more than 40 years.

But the 1980s' steel industry collapse left most of those staying behind feeling forsaken.

"Our area in the last 10 years has become the trash heap for the country," says Balanoff, who now leads the environmental group Indiana Residents for Clean Air.

Residents joined forces to pressure the Navy into a series of town meetings to explain its disposal effort.

Still, Navy officials sent out the first of the napalm over the Easter weekend.

The final straw for opponents came Monday when Campbell admitted his firm had broken an Environmental Protection Agency toxic chemical storage rules in the past.

"We became the pawn in a political game," he says.

PCI had intended to blend

Riding the rails to nowhere

A 12.000-gallon shipment of Vietnam-era napalm left a California storage facility Saturday on the way to an Indiana recycling plant. But the company that was to process the nonexplosive, jellied gasoline backed out of the contract, leaving the Navy with no place to send the chemical. The shipment was to leave Kansas City, Mo., today. Destination: unknown.



Source: USA TODAY research

By Kevin Rechin, USA TODAY

the napalm with other industrial waste at high temperatures to create a solid mixture that would be sold as fuel for kilns that produce Portland cement.

The recycling of the caustic chemical could save 56 million pounds of coal or 6 million gallons of oil, officials say.

Napalm has the look and viscosity of honey. It is less flammable than gasoline, experts say, and safer to transport.

Blagojevich concedes that napalm is no more dangerous than hazardous substances, including pesticides and propane, that are routinely shipped everywhere. But, he says, "Napalm is not something that anyone wants in their community.'

Negative attitudes toward napalm were first created by TV reports showing the "carpet bombing" of jungles in Vietnam and were seared into the national conscience by the newspaper photo of a naked 9vear-old Phan Thi Kim Phuc fleeing her village, her clothes burned from her body by napalm.

But Campbell says that of the 15,000 chemicals his company has handled, napalm is nowhere near the most dangerous: "On a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 the most toxic, napalm is a 4 or a 5.1

Such assurances are of little comfort to people like Alva Cook, 41, an office manager who grew up here.

"They might as well just set a bomb out in the street and wait for it to blow up."

Contributing: Peter Katel

Washington Times

April 16, 1998

Pg. 5

Pentagon delays final approval of high-tech jet

ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Pentagon announced yesterday that it expects to delay by one year final approval for production of the F-22 fighter because there hasn't been enough flight testing to assure confidence in the Air Force's premier developing warplane.

A top defense official said that the program isn't in trouble but that Pentagon officials want to first conduct at least 200 hours of flight testing using two full production models that will be built as planned beginning in December.

The decision on whether to authorize production of the entire line of 339 F-22s won't be made until December 1999, when another six fighters are to be built, said Jacques Gansler, undersecretary of defense for acquisition and technology.

"We're not delaying the program, we're delaying the manage-

ment decision" to begin low-level production, Mr. Gansler said. "There are no problems with this program."

So far, only one F-22 test flight of several hours has been conducted.

Mr. Gansler said his recommendation to delay the production decision is under review and a formal decision by Defense Secretary William S. Cohen will come by November.

Earlier this spring, the General Accounting Office, the investigative arm of Congress, recommended that the F-22 fighter program be delayed entirely for a year in order to fix engineering problems that delayed initial production of several test planes. The GAO report also cited a lack of flight testing data in its recommendation.

But Mr. Gansler said delaying

the program entirely would not only hurt the Pentagon's contractors, but also would add an estimated \$4 billion to total production costs. Under his proposal, the cost of the program would not increase. The fixed production costs are capped at \$43.5 billion for a total estimated cost of \$62.1 billion.

That's \$187 million per plane. The cost of the first two production models plus related expenditures is \$595 million and is included in the administration's proposed budget.

The F-22 fighter, which uses stealth or radar-evading technology, is needed to replace aging F-15s and F-16s in the coming century, according to the Pentagon. The plane is intended primarily to combat enemy fighter aircraft.

The primary contractor on the F-22 is Lockheed Martin Corp.

Wall Street Journal

Judge Picks Sept. 8 Trial Date In Blow to Lockheed-Northrop

By Jeff Cole Staff Reporter of the Wall Street Journal

WASHINGTON -- A federal judge set a Sept. 8 trial date for the U.S. Justice Department's bid to block Lockheed Martin Corp.'s acquisition of Northrop Grumman Corp., despite Northrop's warning that the late date could kill the \$8.3 billion deal.

U.S. District Judge Emmet Sullivan earlier had indicated he was inclined to start the trial early in July, as the companies wanted. Wednesday, however, he cited the government's argument that the case is unusually complex and important to national security. He promised a decision "by Christmas" but no sooner than Thanksgiving.

The proposed transaction, the latest in a long string of big defense mergers over the last five years, was announced in July, and the companies wanted to close the transaction April 24. It would combine Lockheed, a leading producer of military aircraft, with Northrop, a major maker of complex ra-

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dars and electronics used in Lockheed planes.

Threat of Collapse

Regulators last month sued to halt the deal on antitrust and national security grounds. The defense contractors argued for an early trial start, saying that keeping the process moving would help protect the interests of employees and shareholders.

"If it gets pushed out too far, ultimately the merger will collapse," Robert Cooper, a lead Northrop attorney, told the judge Wednesday. Mr. Cooper argued that government lawyers, led by antitrust division chief Joel Klein, are "dragging their feet" in the hope that market pressure will force the companies to abandon the deal.

He also said that Los Angeles-based Northrop is struggling to keep executives and other key employees because of the uncertainty created by the government's action. Mr. Cooper, of the Los Angeles law firm of Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, later noted that financial pressure on the companies increases "with each day that passes."

Commitment to Deal

A Lockheed spokesman said that while the Bethesda, Md.,

company "would have preferred" an earlier court date, it is ready to argue the merger's merits. He said that despite the delay's drawbacks, Lockheed officials "remain committed" to the deal. A Justice Department spokesman declined to comment.

In New York Stock Exchange composite trading, Northrop shares fell \$1.3125 to close at \$106.8125, while Lockheed shares closed at \$113.3125, up \$1.50, also in composite trading on the Big Board.

In a suit filed March 23, antitrust regulators said the transaction would eliminate Northrop as a stand-alone military-airplane maker and as a free-standing producer of radar and electronics.

The regulators cite the deal's "horizontal" aspects, including instances in which Lockheed would expand its control of markets for military aircraft, certain electronic-warfare systems and other products. The government also objects to the deal's "vertical" aspects: an airplane maker purchasing a supplier of key components for the planes.

In the weeks ahead, the companies want to propose selling off some electronics

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units and other divisions, to answer some government complaints and shrink the case's scope.

Complicated Case

Already, initial efforts to begin legal discovery and to take depositions from witnesses have become bogged down. The case is complicated in part by the need to extract testimony, extensive data about transactions, classified information and documents from the companies and the Pentagon. For example, company attorneys told the judge that in trying to depose a senior Pentagon official involved in merger reviews, they were denied meaningful answers to basic questions.

Separately, Northrop Grumman reported a net loss of \$12 million, or 18 cents a diluted share, for the first quarter of 1998, compared with net income of \$84 million, or \$1.25 a share, a year earlier. The latest results, in line with the expectations of analysts. include a previously announced charge of \$180 million, or \$1.70 a share after tax, for costs related to the company's proposed combination with Lockheed Martin. Excluding the charge, Northrop's earnings

were \$1.52 a share.

Sales for the quarter ended March 31 were \$2 billion, down slightly from \$2.1 billion in the year-earlier period. Sales for all of 1998 should be about the same as the \$9.2 billion it reported for last year, said Kent Kresa, chairman and chief executive. The company also expects to exceed the First Call

consensus estimate for 1998 earnings of \$6.99 a share, assuming earnings don't include merger-related expenses.

Chief Financial Officer Richard B. Waugh said the company expects continuing expenses of about \$3 million per month as it continues to fight for the proposed combination through the courts. WASHINGTON — President Clinton will play host to next spring's 50th anniversary NATO meeting in Washington. The Western alliance is expected to welcome at its meetings on April 24-25, 1999, the entry of Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic as new members.

Richmond Times-Dispatch April 16, 1998 Pg. 2

New York Times

April 16, 1998

Pg. 1

Pol Pot Is Dead, Thai and Khmer Rouge Officials Say

By Seth Mydans

SIEM REAP, Cambodia -Pol Pot, the leader of the Cambodian movement responsible
for the deaths of 1.5 million
people in the 1970s, died
Wednesday of a heart attack in
a jungle hideout, Thai military
and Khmer Rouge sources said
Thursday.

There was no confirmation

of the reports.

Pol Pot died before midnight Wednesday in northern Cambodia near the Thai border, said Nuon Nou, reached by telephone, according to the Associated Press. Nuon Nou was assigned to guard Pol Pot after he lost power in a bloody internal struggle last year.

Nuon Nou said Pol Pot's wife informed them of his

death.

"She learned that her husband was dead when she was tying the (mosquito) net for him," Nuon Nou said. "He died in a hut built for him after he lost his power."

Cambodian military officials said they believed the reports of Pol Pot's death, although some foreign diplomats

remained skeptical.

With the last few hundred Khmer Rouge guerrillas on the

run in the mountainous north, Pol Pot was finally cornered, and officials and analysts had been waiting to see whether he would surrender, be captured or killed.

Some had predicted that Pol Pot's comrades would kill him, rather than allow him to fall into foreign hands to be tried before an tribunal where he could testify about their own atrocities.

One of the reports came from a communications officer

with the Khmer Rouge.

"Pol Pot choked and died last night at 11:15 p.m. after his heart failed," the guerrilla officer said. "Before, his heart was not so good and it gave up. His body is in a house belonging to Ta Mok in the mountains and high-ranking officers are planning what they will do with him." Ta Mok is the commander of the Khmer Rouge guerrillas.

The Cambodian government said Thursday that it wants to see Pol Pot's body in order to confirm reports of his death, a government spokesman said.

"I've heard the report but the stance of the government is that we can't confirm or deny it," said Khieu Kanharith, secretary of state for information. "Whoever has his body must hand it to the government so we can check," he said.

Pol Pot, 73, is reported to have been suffering from several ailments in recent years. He was seen to have trouble walking in film of a trial last July at which his own followers turned on him and condemned him to house arrest.

Two weeks ago, government soldiers and Khmer Rouge defectors seized the main village of Anlong Veng, near the Thai border in northern Cambodia, where the guerrillas have made their home.

The United States has revived its efforts to arrange the capture and trial of Pol Pot, who is responsible for the deaths of 1.5 million people during the four years he ruled the country, from 1975 to 1979.

Some analysts said it was likely that his own comrades would kill Pol Pot rather than let him fall into foreign hands, where he could testify about their own involvement in the killings.

"This is certainly a convenient moment for him to have a heart attack," said one Western diplomat who said he was skeptical about the report. "We have had politically motivated rumors about Pol Pot's death in the past when the Khmer Rouge wanted to disassociate themselves from his ugly image."

Over the past 18 months, some Khmer Rouge leaders have defected to the government and received amnesties for their involvement in the

movement's killings.

Now, with their backs to the Thai border and with their enemies closing in, Ta Mokand the last handful of Khmer Rouge leaders are struggling for their lives and their freedom

"I cannot say for sure that Pol Pot has died, but I suspect that he has because he is very, very ill," said Meas Sophea, the deputy chief of Staff of the Cambodian army. "Or he could have been murdered by Ta Mok for political reasons."

Ta Mok, a one-legged guerrilla known among Cambodians as "the butcher," is a longtime commander who turned against Pol Pot last June and seized control of the

Khmer Rouge forces.

Washington Post

April 16, 1998

U.S. Tells Colombia Army Imperils Hostages

By Laura Brooks Special to The Washington Post

BOGOTA, Colombia, April 15—As Colombian troops continued an air and ground offensive against leftist rebels holding four kidnapped Americans this week, U.S. officials said that the military actions could endanger the safety of

the hostages.

"We expressed our concern about this activity to the Colombian military" on Tuesday, said a State Department official, who gave no details. "I think they understood."

Over the weekend and on Tuesday, ground troops attacked rebel units in a remote mountainous area in the central state of Meta, Gen. Fredy

Padilla, commander of the army's 7th Brigade, said in an interview. The troops received air support from Black Hawk helicopters and AC-47 gunships, he said.

Eleven soldiers and 11 rebels were killed over the weekend when members of an elite counterinsurgency brigade pursued rebels in an area 45 miles southeast of Bogota.

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The fighting took place in the area where guerrillas seized four Americans, an Italian and more than two dozen Colombians on March 23 near the city of Villavicencio, 50 miles southeast of the capital. The Americans -- Thomas Fiore, Todd Mark, Peter Shen and Louise Augustine -- were on a bird-watching trip when they drove into a roadblock set up by members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia. It is the larger of Colombia's

two principal guerrilla groups and has recently dealt the army some of the most serious setbacks in the country's 40-year communist insurgency.

The guerrilla group has refused to release the captives, saying they would be killed if they are determined to have ties to the CIA, the FBI or the Drug Enforcement Administration. But the rebels also have suggested that they will ask for ransom payments and that they may hold the tourists for as long as a year.

Fiore escaped from the rebels on April 2 under unclear circumstances, the Italian captive was released today and most of the Colombians have been freed. But the guerrillas still hold the three American bird-watchers; another, unidentified American captured separately; and five Colombi-

ans, Padilla said.

Some Colombian officials praised the military's efforts, saying troops are pushing the rebels to resolve the impasse over the captives. Padilla said the army is putting "appropriate pressure" on about 300 rebels.

"The purpose of this operation is that these [hostages] be freed safe and sound as soon as possible," he said. Padilla said army attacks have not been indiscriminate and occurred only when troops have directly observed the abductors.

"We've been very emphatic in affirming to all our men involved in operations that the most important thing is the security and physical integrity of the captives," he said.

U.S. officials have refused to comment on whether they have asked the army to curtail its offensive. But officials said operations involving hundreds of troops in the wooded area may lack the precision and coordination to succeed and could jeopardize the hostages' safety.

Padilla acknowledged U.S. fears, saying "I believe it is a normal reaction -- that concern exists by the families as well as by government officials regarding the hostages' fate." Army officials said they do not intend to curb their attacks. "The operations must continue, but the army is taking precautions to preserve the lives of those abducted," said Capt. Fernando Avila.

The offensive comes at a time when the army has been severely criticized in Colombia and the United States for its lackluster performance against the two major rebel groups. In recent weeks, U.S. military

commanders have stated that the army is inept, poorly equipped and losing ground against an estimated 15,000 to 20,000 rebels.

In recent weeks, U.S. officials have issued increasingly severe warnings about the danger to Americans traveling in Colombia.

Guerrillas have recently issued threats against U.S. military officials, saying they are targeting anyone involved in counterinsurgency efforts. U.S. officials say there are no U.S. advisers helping Colombia fight its rebels, but Washington is supplying anti-drug aid and instruction which is used against rebels involved in drug operations.

Correspondent Douglas Farah in Washington contributed to this report.

Washington Times

April 16, 1998

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Czech parliament strongly supports entry into NATO

Havel calls move democracy 'anchor'

PRAGUE (AP) — Czech legislators ratified the country's accession to NATO by a comfortable majority yesterday, then celebrated passage with a standing ovation.

Ailing President Vaclav Havel, recovering from emergency surgery at an Austrian hospital, proclaimed the 154-38 vote a historic day for Czechs.

"Thanks to this decision and thanks to our future membership in the alliance, we will have — for the first time in our history — a firm security anchor and, even more, an anchor in the democratic world," Mr. Havel said.

The president underwent an operation Tuesday in Innsbruck, Austria, for a ruptured colon and acute peritonitis. Part of his large intestine was removed.

The only 'no' votes in the 200-seat lower chamber of parliament came from communists or members of the nationalist Repub-

lican Party, which opposes joining NATO

Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright, who met in Washington yesterday with Czech Prime Minister Josef Tosovsky, congratulated him on the NATO vote, State Department spokesman James Rubin told reporters. He said the United States gives Mr. Tosovsky much of the credit for the smooth NATO vote.

Under the Czech constitution, Mr. Tovosky and parliament Speaker Milos Zeman jointly hold presidential powers in case Mr. Havel, 61, is incapacitated. His doctors said he would remain hospitalized for more than a week at Innsbruck, the Austrian mountain resort where he this wife had been vacationing ace last week.

Mr. Havel is still respected

Mr. Havel is still respected worldwide for his pluck in fighting communism. But at home, Havel spokesman Ladislav Spacek agrees, the president has become an ordinary politician, open to the criticism others face.

He is now the butt of criticism and jokes unthinkable a year or two ago. More and more Czechs fear their president is becoming a haughty elitist who has lost the clear focus he had as a dissident.

"Especially after he got married to a younger, pretty woman, . . . and most especially since he started to solve the political crisis," Mr. Spacek said.

Yet it's not just politics, or new first lady Dagmar Veskrnova, a 45-year-old actress, that set tongues wagging.

Since his remarriage in January 1997, Czechs sense a change in the president who preached "living in truth" as a dissident and in 1989.

"Havel in dissident times was a very, very different person," said Jan Urban, a former dissident. Two recent books underline the change.

One is a biography of Mr. Havel's first wife, Olga, who died of cancer in January 1996 after 31 years of marriage. She emerges as a woman of grace and discretion, supportive throughout Mr. Havel's years of jail and persecution.

The other book, whose cover proclaims it was "authorized by Vaclav and Dagmar Havel," recounts their courtship and first year of marriage. The cover shows them looking like landed aristocrats, posing on a deep sofa with pedigree dogs. Inside, they appear in evening wear adorned with

sashes that suggest a noble order.

Insiders with knowledge of the president's thinking said the book reflects a new idea of Mr. Havel's: that Czechs need a "first family," like White House celebrities or European royalty.

Commentators are scathing.

"Havel has become a singular elitist," Martin Danes wrote in Mlada Fronta Dnes, the country's best-selling serious daily. He "slowly is entering into the spirit of the role of a monarch — an enlightened autocrat."

Viktor Slajchrt, writing in the weekly Respekt, called the book a sad and outrageous attempt to boost the first lady's popularity. Her friends, he said, are "the Clintons, the Chiracs, the Spanish and Norwegian royal couples."

Parliament was particularly angered by Mr. Havel's perceived haughtiness when he left on Christmas vacation as guest of the Spanish king and announced he wouldn't lobby for lawmakers to re-elect him when he got back.

They repaid Mr. Havel by not electing him in the first round in January and giving him a one-vote majority in the second.

U.S. Tries to Defuse Russia-Latvia Dispute

New York Times

April 16, 1998

By Steven Erlanger

WASHINGTON -- The United States has been working quietly with other nations to defuse a growing confrontation between Russia and Latvia that threatens to damage Washington's already fraying relationship with Moscow.

The Latvian Cabinet on Wednesday agreed on important changes in its citizenship laws to answer Russian contentions that Latvia mistreats Russians who live there, senior American officials said. The legislation, which is subject to approval by Parliament, would grant citizenship to all children born in Latvia after Aug. 21, 1991, and would make it easier for Russian-speakers to become naturalized.

Administration officials have grown increasingly con-Moscow's cerned over "bullying rhetoric and tactics Latvia," against including threats of economic sanctions, an official said. Washington sees the crisis as an important test of the new charter Clinton signed here on Jan. 16 with the Baltic nations, which regained their independence when the Soviet Union collapsed in

1991

The State Department spokesman, James Rubin, said sanctions would be counterproductive. "The two countries should work out their problems through diplomatic channels," he said.

The Russians have said they would take steps, including asking for the immediate repayment of debts -- which Riga disputes -- and cutting off some shipments of oil to Latvia.

The underlying fear, Latvian officials say, is that if the Russians can get away with Soviet-style tactics to put pressure on Latvia without a significant response from the United States or Europe, they will try it on others.

Since a demonstration by a few thousand Russian-speaking residents of Latvia was broken up by police on March 3 -- a demonstration some in Washington say Moscow organized -- the Russians have compared Latvia's treatment of its ethnic Russians to Pol Pot's Cambodia.

Russian officials, led by President Boris Yeltsin, have turned up the pressure on Latvia in ways reminiscent of the Soviet Union and that have proved to be very popular at home, especially after Yeltsin dismissed the entire Cabinet last month. Mayor Yuri Luzhkov of Moscow, a leading candidate to replace Yeltsin, has been particularly harsh in his nationalist attacks, trying to prove he is more than simply a city official.

The state secretary of the Latvian Foreign Ministry, Maris Riekstins, who is in Washington to discuss the matter with American officials, says bashing Latvia "is unfortunately the one issue that has managed to unite Russia's government, Parliament and media."

So far, Washington has tried "quiet diplomacy," with Clinton writing the Latvian president, Guntis Ulmanis, on April 10, and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright writing a sharply worded letter to Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov that was delivered in Moscow Wednesday.

In her letter, Albright said Washington was concerned about the dangerous trend of rising tensions between Russia and Latvia and warned against the use of sanctions.

The Americans, the Nordic countries and Britain, as the

current president of the European Union, have all lodged protests to Moscow, with the Swedish protest being particularly strong, the officials said.

Wednesday's proposed changes by the Latvian Cabinet, encouraged by Western officials and recommended by the Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe, may be enough to promote a dialogue between Moscow and Riga and calm matters down, the officials said.

Among the changes will be the abolition of a system of age restrictions on the number of people allowed to apply for naturalization at any given time. About 688,000 of those living in Latvia now do not have Latvian citizenship, including some 450,000 ethnic Russians, about 66 percent of all the non-citizens resident in Latvia.

Moscow says Latvia is discriminating against noncitizens, while Latvian officials say that Russian speakers have been slow to apply for naturalization, and that more than 95 percent of those who do apply have been able to pass basic Latvian language and history tests required for citizenship.

Baltimore Sun

April 16, 1998

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Ryan is Clinton's choice to become Naval Academy's next superintendent

By Neal Thompson sunstaff

The White House confirmed yesterday that Rear Adm. John R. Ryan, commander of the Navy's air forces in the Mediterranean, is President Clinton's pick to become the superintendent of the Naval Academy this summer.

Pentagon sources previously acknowledged that Ryan was front-runner for the job, and Defense Secretary William S. Cohen made it official yesterday when he announced that Clinton would forward Ryan's name to the Senate for confirmation. Clinton also nominated Ryan for a promotion from two-star to three-star imiral.

Ryan was attending a 1 ATO conference in Turkey yest day, but his spokesman, Lt. Cmar. Bill Spann, said Ryan "indicated that he was both thrilled and humbled and looking forward to the Senate confirmation process."

If confirmed, Ryan would replace Adm. Charles R. Larson, who plans to retire June 4 after

completing his second term as superintendent. Larson has spent the past four years trying to improve the academy's image and its internal integrity and morale, which had been damaged by a number of scandals involving crimes by midshipmen.

As commander of Fleet Air Mediterranean and Maritime Air Forces in Naples, Italy. Ryan oversees six naval bases and three air squadrons across the Mediterranean Sea.

Ryan, 52, was born in Harrisburg, Pa., and raised in Mountainhome in the state's Pocono Mountains. He graduated from the Naval Academy in 1967.

A pilot who has flown hundreds of surveillance and reconnais-

sance missions, Ryan continues to fly recon missions over Bosnia. He also has served in high-level positions at the Pentagon and served with Larson in Hawaii when Larson was commander in chief of forces in the Pacific.

Ryan and his wife, Diane, have been married 30 years and have three grown daughters.

San Antonio Express News

April 15, 1998

Officer praises minorities' progress in military

By Sig Christenson Express-News Staff Writer

AUSTIN -- A half-century after President ordered an end to segregation in America's armed forces, racism remains unconquered, but times are better than ever for minorities as the new millennium nears, a top African-American general said Wednesday

Air Force Gen. Lloyd W. "Fig" Newton, speaking at a University of Texas symposium, said Truman's bold 1948 executive order that forced desegregation in the military caused riots to break out at Air Force bases in Del Rio and South Korea.

But the decision also sparked the creation of the world's most diverse military and ultimately showed blacks and whites can work together and win -- at home and on the battlefield, said Newton, commander of the Air Education and Training Command at Randolph AFB.

"I am pleased to say that we have been successful so far," Newton told about 85 people attending the two-day symposium at the Lila B. Etter Alumni Center in Austin. "I was a part of that era. We certainly have not reached the mountaintop and solved all of the problems yet."

One of just seven African-American four-star generals in U.S. military history (three on active duty), Newton, 55, helped open the LBJ School of Public Affairs' symposium, "The Military, Equal Opportunity and America's Promise."

The symposium continues today with an appearance by Deputy Secretary of Defense John Hamre, the Pentagon's No. 2 man.

Others here marking Tru-

man's executive order include Adm. Paul Reason, the Navy's first African- American fourstar flag officer, and Vice Adm. Patricia Tracey, the nation's highest-ranking female officer.

When Truman issued Executive Order 9981 on July 26, 1948, the Air Force and Navy were mapping plans to desegregate their forces, but the military still remained separated by color lines. While blacks such as the Tuskegee Airmen had fought with distinction in World War II, a legacy of racism and "separate but equal" treatment stymied their opportunities.

Today, blacks number some 450 general officers, although

Pentagon figures show that one of every five enlisted members of the armed forces was African-American in 1997, with fewer than one in 10 serving as officers.

The growth of minorities in uniform not only stems from Truman's executive order, Newton said, but also is due to the fact that the military is a "value-based" institution.

"Our goal is an organization where all members are valued, respected and treated fairly," he said.

Such core values as integrity first, service before self and achieving excellence are stressed in the Air Force, whose leadership "lives and breathes" those principles, Newton said.

Racism may not be dead and may never be eliminated from society, he said, but it also would not have been challenged had it not been for Truman's executive order and the courage of those in the civil rights movement.

"I can tell you that, as we approach a new millennium, we cannot reach our full potential without all of our resources," Newton said, noting that one of every three Americans is expected to be nonwhite by 2030. "We cannot reach our full potential without all of our resources."

New York Times

April 16, 1998

Maker of Bradley Vehicle is Penalized \$310 Million

By The Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. -- A Federal jury has decided to impose a \$310 million judgment against the FMC Corporation over its production of the troubled Bradley Fighting Vehicle

A dozen years ago, an FMC engineer named Henry Boisvert

discovered that the Bradley tended to leak when it crossed a river. A jury on Tuesday unanimously agreed with Mr. Boisvert's assessment and other claims filed in his lawsuit under a whistle-blower law. Mr. Boisvert, 48, now works for Hewlett-Packard.

Seventy percent of the verdict goes to the Treasury. So Mr. Boisvert and his lawyers could receive at least \$77 mil-

The lawsuit said FMC had lied about safety flaws in the Bradley, the amphibious 25-ton military vehicle that is part tank and part armored troop carrier. Mr. Boisvert's main accusation was that although the Bradley was supposed to float across rivers and lakes, it could sink.

European Stars & Stripes

April 16, 1998

Joint naval exercises

MANAMA, Bahrain — Bahrain, the United States and Britain began naval exercises Tuesday in the Persian Gulf, two days after Iran began its own maneuvers in the region. The eight-day exercises will involve tactical maneuvers and the use of live ammunition, the

official Gulf News Agency said. Nine warships, including a U.S. destroyer and frigate, are taking part. Iran began nine days of military exercises on Sunday, including the deployment of three Russian-made submarines.

U.S. officials said the similar timing for the maneuvers is coincidental.

Bahrain, a key U.S. gulf ally and home to the U.S. 5th

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Fleet, has defense agreements with the United States and Britain.

The United States, which currently has some 20 warships in the gulf, including two aircraft carriers, has seen the Iranian military buildup as a potential threat to the gulf region. It conducts more than 50 military exercises annually in the gulf.

Washington Post

April 16, 1998

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Korean Talks

SOUTH KOREA'S recently elected president, Kim Dae Jung, in addition to setting his nation's troubled economy back on course, is trying to open a new chapter in relations with North Korea, Mr. Kim has been careful to stress that South Korea wants contacts and gradual warming of relations with the Communist and long-hostile North, not its destruction or early absorption into the more populous and successful South. He has appropriately set his sights on small, pragmatic measures rather than sweeping arms-control agreements that would be impossible to negotiate anytime soon.

Even so, improved relations won't come easily. North Korea is the world's most isolated and regimented country -- the last remaining Stalinist regime. Its economy is failing, and many of its people are going hungry. Any steps likely to ease its economic crisis involve contact with the outside world that the regime may deem equally likely to threaten its survival -- thus, presumably, its evident ambivalence about asking for aid or entering negotiations.

Thus it is good news that officials from the two Koreas this week held their first direct, bilateral talks in several years. It is bad, but not particularly surprising, news that those talks quickly ran into at least a temporary glitch. South Korea agreed to donate fertilizer, as the North requested, but asked in return for movement toward visits between family members separated by the DMZ. The North refused, complaining that the South was parrying its "humanitarian" request with a "political" demand of its

It seems to us, though, that South Korea's request also is humanitarian. Hundreds of thousands of Koreans have not seen or even communicated with siblings for the past five decades; many don't even know whether relatives are still alive. These people are aging, without many years left to wait for politicians to approve a reunion. Moreover, Mr. Kim is the leader of a democracy who must show his people some positive results if he is to push a policy of greater charity and friendliness toward the North. When the North accepts that premise, some progress may be possible.

New York Times

April 16, 1998

Latin American Agenda

The Summit of the Americas in Chile later this week finds both Latin America and its relationship with the United States in far better health than in the recent past. Except for Cuba, which was barred from the summit, all the nations are nominally democracies. On most issues the mistrust and even hostility that once characterized Washington's relations with Latin nations have been replaced by cooperation. Still, Latin America has enjoyed a wave of elected civilian leadership twice before in this century. Insuring that this one lasts requires deepening democracy and extending the benefits of growth to the poor. There is more Washington can do on both counts.

While Washington's free-market policies have produced export-led growth, there are more poor people than ever before in Latin America. Economic inequality, already the worst in the world, is rising. Measures to fight poverty, especially through more widespread access to education, are prominent on the summit's agenda, and that of the Clinton Administration.

But they are too small and scattered to be effective.

Latin American budgets need to emphasize health and educa-

tion, which in turn require improved tax collection.

The Clinton Administration can help by promoting this agenda

as vigorously as it promotes free trade.

Almost every Latin American nation now elects its leaders, but many of those leaders control the judiciary, muzzle the press, harass critics and restrict labor unions. The Clinton Administration is right to make press freedom a priority, and should work for an effective and independent judiciary as well. The regional training center for judges that Washington supports is useful, but pressure to respect judicial independence is more important.

The end of the cold war has brought a welcome shift away from Washington's blind support of repressive militaries and toward initiatives that train civilian leaders in defense issues and build relationships with them. Unfortunately, the Clinton Administration's mistaken enthusiasm for using Latin armies to combat cocaine could reverse this positive change. President Clinton should reimpose a ban on selling high-tech weapons to Latin America. The decision to lift the 20-year ban last year, taken partly to please arms manufacturers, could spark an arms race and divert money from social spending that is so urgently needed throughout Latin America.

Gays in the military

Norfolk Virginian-Pilot April 15, 1998

Cohen right to reinforce 'don't ask' policy against witch hunts

Defense Secretary William Cohen says the military isn't hounding gays out of the service. He nonetheless directed hounding to stop and has published procedures designed to stop it. Those who choose to see contradiction in that are not off the mark.

Mr. Cohen wants the military "to fully and fairly" implement the "don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue" policy adopted in 1994 to shield uniformed gay men and women from invidious discrimination and witch hunts. Meanwhile, everyone in uniform, regardless of sexual orientation, is charged with behaving professionally and respecting peers, subordinates and superiors. In theory, the rule applies across the board. In practice, of course, it doesn't always. Gays still risk being singled out for scorn, harassment, investiga-

Alluding to evidence of a handful of command violations of the don't-ask policy, the secretary asserted nonetheless that "some commanders haven't gotten the message." That's surely true.

Deeply ingrained attitudes and habits aren't easily broken. The military's long-held official position was that gays present insurmountable challenges to good order and discipline. Many personnel still adhere to the position. They do so despite the reality that gays and bisexuals have ever served in the military. Like others in uniform, many have served honorably and many have not; many have served with distinction, many have not.

Don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue is the compromise policy intended to end gays' persecution in the military. Gay advocates say that persecution persists -- that many gays are subjected unjustly to harassment and worse -- and that may well be so: The large number of gays who have been administratively discharged in recent years after acknowledging their orientation "voluntarily" at the very least suggests that something may be awry.

Personnel -- of every sexual orientation and sexual behavior -are inevitably a source of headaches for managers. But the U.S. armed forces are extraordinarily successful at transforming civilians into cut-above military professionals. Being gay or straight is neither disqualifying nor qualifying in itself; no predictor of small-unit failure or excellence under fire or out of harm's way. Anti-gay bigotry in the military should be as unwelcome as raceand gender-based bigotry. Mr. Cohen rightly reinforces the policy. Maybe the move will end the flouting of it.

San Diego Union-Tribune

April 15, 1998

Pg. B6

Political meddling

Navy is obligated to complete napalm disposal

"Black Saturday" has turned into "Happy Monday" for companies that manufacture duct tape. It looks like they're not losing one of their biggest customers, after all.

Duct tape is what the Navy uses to repair leaks in the 34,000 canisters of napalm it has stored (a euphemism for left lying around) in three open fields at Fallbrook's Naval Weapons Facility. Because the canisters have been sitting there since the end of the Vietnam War, there have been considerable leaks, hence a considerable consumption of duct tape.

Indeed, it's a testimony to the effectiveness of the tape that pretty nearly all of the 23 million pounds of the jelly-like incendiary product is still in the canisters. At least, 22,988,000 pounds of it. The other 12,000 pounds are on a railroad car somewhere in the Southwest, en route to nowhere.

They were supposed to wind up in Indiana, where a company called Pollution Control Industries (PCI) would recycle them into fuel for cement kilns. Over the next two years, the rest of the napalm was to go the same route.

But that's not likely to happen now. Too many politicians and government agencies have gotten into the act. The result: PCI has pulled out of its contract. "The political pressure from all of this has been more than we'd bargained for," confessed PCI president Robert Campbell.

On Friday, PCI notified the primary contractor, Battelle Me-

morial Institute, asking that the first shipment of napalm be halted. But it wasn't. It left on Saturday, and now, like the barge carrying New York City garbage in 1987, may be shunted around from siding to siding in an endless game of hot potato.

It's not that there is much danger of the napalm exploding; it's safer by far than the thousands of 18-wheel tanker trucks hauling far more than 12,000 pounds of gasoline each over the nation's highways daily. Nor would it have been dangerous to burn it in Indiana. That would have been done in special kilns that handle more noxious substances than napalm.

It's the perception that is the problem. Like other toxic wastes, napalm is a substance that nobody wants to be near. Except politicians, who, in an election year, are having great sport with it.

What happens now? There are at least three other companies besides PCI that Battelle has identified as qualified to dispose of the napalm, but each would likely be subjected to the same kind of political pressure that PCI succumbed to.

It would be better for the Navy to take legal action to force PCI to honor its contract. Even though that might be expensive and drawn-out, it's the Navy's best bet. The disposal plan it worked out is a good one that passed environmental muster at every step. And the contract is legally binding. In any case, the napalm poses a festering problem that Navy officials have an obligation to solve -- promptly.

As the Navy continues to dither, the leaking napalm canisters continue to rot away in Fallbrook, where they are dangerous. The possibility of carcinogens leaking out into the ground is very real.

Duct tape is wonderful stuff. But it's not going to work on those canisters forever.

Washington Times

April 16, 1998

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AMOS PERLMUTTER

Saddam Hussein redux

he war of nerves between the United States and Saddam Hussein is gaining a new momentum.

The April 10 New York Times reported that a team of independent experts reviewing at Baghdad's request Iraqi progress in eliminating weapons of mass destruction, especially biological weapons, "has rejected President Saddam Hussein's contention that he no longer has a germ warfare program."

There is nothing surprising or remarkable here. The expert report issued on April 9 remarked that Iraqi disclosures "are incomplete and inadequate." This is a report requested by the Iraqi regime! What is more interesting in the New York Times report is that the independent panel of experts from countries friendly to Iraq have also agreed with the findings of the Baghdad-blessed team. They

include experts from China, Russia and France. Even Russia and France, who support Iraq diplomatically, have become concerned Saddam is leading them to a diplomatic debacle. The report clearly cites "physical evidence" of biological arms.

Who is the culprit? Surprise, surprise. What did you expect from the pusillanimous Clinton-Annan diplomacy? What is more irritating is the statement by Kofi Annan's special inspector for the palaces, Jayantha Dhanapala, who serves as a coverup for Saddam, confirming that the inspectors found no biological weapons in the palaces. Hence the secretary general has become a party to Saddam Hussein's deception. In this he has joined President Clinton and especially his national security advisers in promising fidelity to the Saddam-Annan agreement on Feb. 28, now violated.

Most disturbing is the fact that the Annan-Saddam agreement specifically made the inspection of the palaces a one-time event. This means that the biological weapons removed from the palaces between November 1997 and February 1998 could be replaced without interruption by U.N. inspectors. In fact, what Kofi Annan succeeded in doing is to make sure that the palaces will never be open for inspection again. The gangster from Baghdad has outmaneuvered the diplomat from

Ghana who, under the instructions of Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, "achieved" this deceptive agreement.

What is the expected reaction of Mr. Clinton and his advisers to Saddam's latest chicanery now that Mr. Clinton's hands are tied by his delegation of presidential power to the secretary general of the United Nations? How will Secretary General Kofi Annan meet this challenge now that his "gentleman's agreement" with, to paraphrase Mr. Annan, a reasonable statesman [Saddam] has been violated?

Before the Annan-Saddam agreement, Mr. Clinton was the master of America's iron policy toward Saddam. Between November 1997 and February 1998, he relinquished America's power to the U.N. Security Council and to Russia, China and France, who have different fish to fry in Saddam's land. Since Feb. 28, Mr. Clinton has been beholden to the secretary general's decision. In other words, the team's report is within Mr. Annan's jurisdiction. Thus, the president succeeded in creating an obstacle to his own policy depending on the secretary general, who is an administrator, but now holds considerable political power in the matter of Iraq's challenge to the United States and the international community.

Any undergraduate student of

international relations would have no doubts about who Saddam is, what his ambitions are, and that he will not give up building an arsenal of weapons of mass destruction without American and international pressure. The president's diplomacy has progressively created better and more advantages and opportunities for Saddam, not for the regime of sanctions.

It is inevitable that Mr. Clinton will have to face another drama with Saddam. Once again, as some of us predicted earlier, he will find himself in a less favorable political situation.

This time his diplomatic hand has been weakened considerably. The only option for a robust and successful American policy is to destroy Saddam's regime by means of war. The military advice of the president's Pollyannaish former and present military and security analysts against a destructive war on Saddam's weapons of mass destruction should be ignored. They were wrong in 1991 and have been wrong again in early 1998.

Saddam Hussein, the ruler of a Third World country not yet ready to successfully employ his accumulated weapons, should be nipped in the bud. Mr. Clinton, whether you like it or not, you will have to bite this bullet before Saddam continues to humiliate you and the United States.

Amos Perlmutter is a professor of political science and sociology at American University and editor of the Journal of Strategic Studies.

Washington Times

INSIDE THE RING

by Ernest Blazar

Sacred cows

There is a quiet intellectual guerrilla war going on in the Pentagon.

Drawing sniper fire is the Pentagon's road map to the future. Called "Joint Vision 2010," it seeks to usher in a "revolution in military affairs." By lashing the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines together as never before, the Pentagon hopes to springboard off today's information and computer revolution. Doing so will create an unbeatable U.S. military, the thinking goes.

Leading supporters of this concept believe it may eventually allow for the unification of the four services.

The guerrillas on the other side of this debate are retired and reserve Marines. Wary of the path the Pentagon is following, these Marines are escalating the war of

Read what one wrote recently about the 34-page "Joint Vision 2010."

"It is a vacuous publication filled with an overabundance of cliches . . . [and it] lacks any intellectual rigor."

A salvo like that is only news because of who wrote it. His name is Paul Van Riper. A wellregarded thinker, he retired last October as the three-star general in charge of the Marine Corps' combined war-fighting university and think-tank in Quantico, Va.

He and a select band of Marines believe for two reasons that the nation risks danger by blindly following the Pentagon's current strategy.

First, by trying to speak only with one "joint" voice, the Pentagon smothers the strengths and talents of each of the four ser-

Called "strategic monism," it

April 16, 1998

"refers to a deliberate reliance on a single strategic concept or approach to military problems, wrote Marine reservist Lt. Col. Frank Hoffman, in the Marine Corps Gazette, the service's top professional journal. "The diversity of threats facing the United States does not permit us the luxury of having only hammers in our toolbox of capabilities. If you have only a hammer ... every problem looks like a nail.'

Like the late 1930s, today is an inter-war period in which military innovation - not stifling, rigid orthodoxy - is needed, dissenters like Col. Hoffman and Gen. Van Riper argue. They credit France's disastrous and embarrassing military failures in 1940 to the same kind of inflexibility they see too often in the Pentagon today.

Second, Gen. Van Riper be-

lieves the Pentagon's rush toward ever more jointness may be too hasty. He fears "Joint Vision 2010" closes the debate over the nation's military future. Instead, the general says, the debate has really yet to begin.

Here Gen. Van Riper relies upon the work of British military analyst and author Colin Gray, who believes that there are five steps to any military revolution, the likes of which the Pentagon glimpses in "Joint Vision 2010."

Here is Mr. Gray's pattern: 1) A real world "triggering event" like the lopsided U.S. victory in the 1991 Persian Gulf war spurs 2) "prophetic statements" about its meaning, which eventually get 3) refined in "extensive concep-tual elaboration," which fuels 4) contrary and skeptical counterarguments, which causes 5) "the nuggets of sense [to be] distinguished from the tons of non-

Gen. Van Riper and others fear that the Pentagon thinks itself at Stage 5, with markers to the future anchored in nuggets of truth, the debate and counterdebate already exhausted. But in reality,

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the Pentagon's strategy is only at Stage 2: obscured by untested, prophetic nonsense, the Marine guerrilla thinkers contend.

"Ideas, especially big ideas, are necessary and valuable, but they should come with intellectual and policy health warnings," Colin Gray wrote last year in his assessment of the American revolution in military affairs. Those warnings would go something like this: "The attachment of undue credulity to this idea could seriously impair your national security and wealth, for example.'

It is just such a warning these Marines seek to provide.

They are well-oriented for the task, given the Marine Corps' historical wariness of centralized Pentagon power. Gen. Van Riper and others readily admit that the Marine Corps has the most to lose if talk of "jointness" is really a Trojan Horse for eventual unification.

But they insist their fight is about what's best for the U.S. military, not just the Marine

"With the Soviet Union we saw what happens with centralization," Gen. Van Riper explained to Inside the Ring. "You implode. If you look at the biological world, the more diversity, the more adaptation, the greater the chance of survival." The same should be true inside the U.S. military, he argued. "If jointness takes away or destroys the character of each service, that is the wrong way to go."

The healthy tension among the four services, he argued, acts as an engine for new ideas and con-

cepts.
"If the joint community cannot withstand a little scrutiny and debate on this issue," Gen. Van Riper warned, "then we are far down the road to rigid orthodoxy and eventual tragedy."

Deputized

The No. 2 officials throughout

THURSDAY, April 16, 1998

the Clinton administration rushed to the White House yesterday morning for an emergency meeting

Was the urgency related to Iraqi weapons inspections? The fate of Russian President Boris Yeltsin's new prime minister? Missile technology exports to China?

No.

The National Security Council

meeting of the so-called Deputies Committee convened to discuss the plight of the Northern Right Whale. Apparently the treehugging crowd in the White House, specifically within Vice President Al Gore's staff, were scrambling to meet a deadline set by the United Nations' International Maritime Organization for a proposal on how to best protect the whales.

"A lot of ships have been bumping into the whales and their numbers are greatly diminished," said one official familiar with the meeting who was surprised by the subject.

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Inside Missile Defense

April 15, 1998

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AIR FORCE 'HAVE STARE' RADAR MAY BE DEPLOYED ALONG RUSSIAN BORDER

An Air Force space tracking and intelligence radar that could be used as part of a national missile defense architecture will soon be deployed in northern Norway along the Russian border, according to space experts and Norwegian press reports.

The transfer of the HAVE STARE radar, currently located at Vandenburg AFB in California, has sparked controversy in Norway. According to press reports there, the Norwegian government originally announced it would cooperate with the United States on the construction of a "Globus II" radar designed to track space debris.

However, according to these reports and space experts including Federation of American Scientists analyst John Pike, the radar in question is actually HAVE STARE, designed for a wide variety of space tracking roles, including missile defense and early warning.

"It's for intelligence collection," a former Army space official said. One of HAVE STARE's stated missions is the tracking of all kinds of space objects, including debris. Official descriptions state the radar, the existence of which was classified until 1993, is a "high resolution X-band tracking and imaging radar with a 27-meter mechanical dish antenna. HS will be deployed as a dedicated space surveillance sensor to support the mission of space object catalog maintenance of deep space objects and mission payload assessment."

The description, found in the fiscal year 1998 Defense Department program element descriptive summaries, also states that HAVE STARE, when deployed, will "retain its original design features and their inherent potential to support other missions."

Among those other missions is National Missile Defense. Rear Adm. Richard West, the deputy director of the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization, told Congress in mid-1996 that "if needed," existing forward-based radars such as Cobra Dane or HAVE STARE "could also be used to support the NMD system" as part of an upgraded early warning radar network.

Why such a radar might be deployed in northern Norway, near Russian military bases on the Kola Peninsula, has raised questions in Norway. Questions have also been raised here over why the governments of both the United States and Norway may be mislabeling the radar as the "Globus II," designed merely to track and catalog space junk.

Its position in Vardo, Norway, Pike contends, suggests otherwise. In fact, at that location such a radar would be less effective at tracking space junk, he says. On the other hand, a former high-ranking Army space official says the position would be ideal for such a role.

Both agree, however, that the radar would be in the perfect position to observe missile tests within Russia. And, Pike adds, the HAVE STARE radar would be able to warn of missiles that might be aimed outside the country.

The former Army space official says the radar may replace another system that has been deployed there for years, manned by Norwegians. HAVE STARE would be manned by the country's military intelligence forces.

The official speculates that because the United States may be losing some of its early warning and military intelligence radar capabilities elsewhere, most notably in Turkey, putting HAVE STARE at the Vardo site could provide an ideal backup. HAVE STARE, if deployed there, will be "not a replacement but a surrogate" for other systems in case they are shut down, he believes.

According to a March 26 Associated Press report, work on the Globus II will start this month and be completed in late 2000, when HAVE STARE is supposed to reach initial operational capability. The HAVE STARE program is currently in engineering and manufacturing development. -- Daniel G. Dupont

Wall Street Journal

April 16, 1998

Pg. 4

Helicopter Units of Firms In Europe Seek Merger

By a Wall. STRUET JOURNAL Staff Reporter LONDON – The parent companies of Westland Helicopters Ltd. of Britain and Italy's Agusta are expected to announce today that they are entering negotiations with a view to an eventual merger of the helicopter businesses, according to people familiar with the developments.

Westland is a unit of British engineer-

ing group GKN PLC, while Agusta is part of Italy's state holding company, Finmeccanica SpA.

A linkup would create one of the world's largest helicopter manufacturers, and is seen as a "highly complementary match," according to a person familiar with the matter. Westland is strong in military helicopters such as the Lynx naval helicopter and the Apache attack helicopter built under license from Boeing Co., while Agusta's main strength

is in the civilian helicopter business.

A merger would mark a rare aggressive move toward defense consolidation in Europe, which has watched from the sidelines as U.S. defense contractors have rapidly joined forces. The major helicopter companies in the U.S. are Boeing, the Sikorsky Aircraft unit of United Technologies Corp. and the Bell Helicopter unit of Textron Inc.; in Europe, they are Westland, Agusta and the Eranco-German Eurocopter.

U.S. should stay, congressman says

Presence 'has made a difference'

By Eunice Moscoso Cox News Service

WASHINGTON — Rep. Bob Etheridge, D-N.C., said Tuesday that a recent trip to Bosnia fortified his commitment to keep U.S. troops in the war-torn region.

"The U.S. presence has made a difference," he said. "The bloodshed that really horrified the world has stopped."

Etheridge returned last week from a five-day tour that included stops in Sarajevo and Macedonia. He went as part of a congressional delegation that included Reps. Bob Riley, R-Ala., and Ernest Istook, R-Okla. Etheridge said the three House members will likely present a joint report to Congress later this month.

The congressmen visited some of the hardest-hit areas.

"Words cannot describe the tremendous devastation that you see," Etheridge said.

Efforts to rebuild schools and railroads, establish a free press, develop political parties and resurrect the economy have a long way to go, he added.

Throughout the trip, Etheridge met with U.S. soldiers, including dozens from North Carolina. There are nearly 8,000 U.S. soldiers in the Balkans

In Tuzla, Etheridge met troops from the North Carolina National Guard's 1,454th Transportation Company, which is moving equipment and supplies through the occupied area.

In addition to taking pictures with many of the soldiers, he offered them congressional stationery, which some used to

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write letters to their families.
Etheridge said all the troops were optimistic and confident in their mission. "Their morale was really good," he said.

In addition, he said many Bosnians, including refugees who are just now returning, expressed sincere appreciation for the U.S. troops.

"Almost everywhere we stopped they kept repeating how grateful they were that the Americans came," he said.

Despite his support for keeping U.S. troops in the Balkans, Etheridge voted — just days before his trip — against a House bill that would have allocated \$487 million for U.S. military action in Bosnia. The \$2.9 billion bill, which also included money for military operations in the Persian Gulf,

narrowly passed on a 212-208 vote.

Etheridge and five other North Carolina representatives opposed the bill because the spending was offset by cuts in domestic programs, including low-income housing subsidies and education efforts.

In 1997, Etheridge showed his support for the military action in Bosnia by voting against a bill that prohibited funding for U.S. ground troops there after June 30.

After his trip, Etheridge said the United States should maintain a strong defense and continue to provide a good education to its military.

Etheridge, who served in the U.S. Army from 1965 to 1967, said he was impressed by the technological superiority of the soldiers he met in Bosnia.

Omaha World-Herald

April 14, 1998

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General Says People, Planes Stretched Thin

Base closings must be considered to free up money, the Air Combat Command's leader says

By Jason Gertzen World-Herald Staff Writer

One of the Air Force's top commanders said Monday that his planes are short of spare parts and his people are so overworked that they are leaving the military in droves to take jobs in a robust civilian economy.

"It's a very serious issue for the country," said Gen. Richard Hawley, commander of Air Combat Command.

Hawley is visiting Offutt Air Force Base this week to lead a conference with his senior commanders. He said he planned to tell them what was being done about some of the problems and to listen to their concerns.

Closing military bases must be considered as a way to free up money that is needed to take care of the Air Force's people and equipment, Hawley said. Its current budget is short by about \$ 4 billion to \$ 5 billion, he said.

The Air Force has shrunk by about 40percent over the past 10 years, but it still is trying to maintain about 80percent of the bases and infrastructure it had when it was a much larger force, he said.

"We are carrying a lot of infrastructure that is not needed," Hawley said. "That costs money that could be going to spare parts. It could be going to support the training of new young people who are coming into the Air Force."

Hawley did not say whether he considered Offutt to be vulnerable if Congress approves a new round of base closures. He said military commanders are not the ones who single out facilities that should be shut down.

The method used in the past has involved an independent commission that compiles a list of bases that should be closed or used in a different manner.

Hawley said he would encourage any community facing the possible closure of a local base to look at ways of using the facility in a new way. "The facilities left behind when a base closes can be reused and become a community asset."

Communities with closed Department of Defense bases in the past have been able to replace an average of 75percent of the civilian jobs, Hawley said, and some cities have been able to generate even higher levels of civilian employment than existed when the bases belonged to the military.

Hawley said he has serious concerns about how ready the Air Force is to go to war or perform the increasing number of missions it is assigned.

Although the Air Force is smaller than it was a decade ago, he said, it has about four times as many people performing missions around the world than it did when it was larger.

"That's beginning to have an effect," Hawley said. "There are signs of wear and tear."

Airplanes are not maintained as well as they used to be, he said. Maintenance crews frequently must cannibalize parts from one plane so they can make another ready to fly, he said. "You wind up fixing two airplanes to get one in the air."

Military members who are facing a growing number of overseas assignments and a lack of resources are beginning to seek employment in the private sector, he said.

The Air Force is struggling with pilot shortages for some planes. Projections indicate that the problem will become more widespread. The Air Force also is having trouble retaining navigators, highly skilled enlisted members, communications and computer workers and security police.

"They make good employees," he said. "They get a lot of good skills in the military."

The Air Force is using financial incentives and other programs to encourage more people to remain in the military. These efforts are producing some results, but the Air Force needs more money to address the problem, he said.

The United States should not grow complacent because the Soviet Union has collapsed, former Warsaw Pact countries are joining NATO and the level of threats is not as high as it was a decade ago, Hawley said.

"It's a different world, but it doesn't mean that our interests are not threatened." Boston Herald April 14, 1998 Pg. 7

Guard under probe

Whistleblower claims he was suspended over Cellucci fund-raising flap

By Joseph Mallia

The Pentagon's top watchdog has opened a formal investigation into whether a career Massachusetts National Guard officer was suspended in retaliation for testifying about alleged improper on-the-job fund raising for acting Gov. Paul Cellucci.

The Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Defense is investigating whether the whistleblower, Col. Peter J. Skentzos, 55, was unjustly removed from his job Feb. 3 for 60 days after telling investigators that uniformed Guardsmen were pressuring co-workers to give money to Cellucci.

Skentzos, the Guard's maintenance chief, said he was targeted for reprisal after testifying under oath that the fund raising was directed by Adj. Gen. Raymond Vezina, chief of the Guard and a longtime Cel-

lucci family friend.

"This office has completed a preliminary inquiry into Col. Skentzos' reprisal allegations and concluded that the matter warrants formal investigation pursuant to . . . the Military Whistleblower Protection Act," Defense Department Inspector General Eleanor Hill said in a March 6 letter on file at the Merit Systems Protection Board in Boston.

Skentzos' testimony to the state Office of Campaign and Political Finance followed a Herald report last October that the 12,000-person National Guard had been turned into a Cellucci political fund-raising battalion.

Two of Vezina's close associates, Sgt. Maj. Clifton Schandelmayer and Col. Gregory C. Joy, led the fund raising,

the Herald report said.

"I have been the subject of an illegal and unrelenting campaign of reprisal against me because my conscience would not allow me to idly stand by and watch these individuals . . . defraud the American people for four years," Skentzos said in court documents filed at the civil service board by his lawyer, Cornelius J.P. Sullivan.

Skentzos also testified to investigators about alleged fraud and misuse of government property in the Guard.

Vezina declined to comment on whether he had taken reprisal action against Skentzos, and barred a reporter from attending a hearing on the matter at Guard headquarters in Milford.

The Herald found that dozens of Guard employees made clusters of contributions to Cellucci from 1994-1997, including a single day in February 1995 when at least 24

Guard officers donated a total of \$ 3,450.

The Massachusetts National Guard is a hybrid of state and federal agencies, but Vezina, who was hand-picked by Cellucci for the job, can be disciplined only by his commander-in-chief - the governor.

Public documents show that Vezina is also under investigation by another Pentagon agency - the Department of the Army Inspector General - and by the office of Massachusetts Attorney General Scott Harshbarger.

Cellucci will take no action until the federal and state investigations are complete, said spokesman Jose Juves.

The official reason for Skentzos' suspension is that several associates of Vezina heard him utter "false and malicious" statements about the

adjutant general's alleged fraud in paying Schandelmayer a full-time salary for part-time work, according to Skentzos' lawyer.

Herald reporters in October observed Schandelmayer work less than 9 hours during the week of Aug. 5 when an order from Vezina - who is godfather to one of Schandelmayer's children - authorized paying him for 32 hours.

Vezina in an interview last week said his own internal investigations "are just about all completed to my satisfaction. There was no truth in any of it"

Further, Vezina disputed the Herald report that Schandelmayer failed to work the hours he was paid for the week of Aug. 5. "It never happened," Vezina said.

Baltimore Sun

April 16, 1998

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Foreign policy shifts to the bottom line

Third World nations get U.S. attention as markets, trouble spots

By MARK MATTHEWS SUN NATIONAL STAFF

WASHINGTON — Call it the Third World, Developing World or the Global South. Finally, it's getting respect.

President Clinton's foreign travel this year — through Africa in March, to the Summit of the Americas in Chile this week and to the Indian subcontinent this fall — points to a formidable challenge for American policymakers as the next century nears.

Whereas the East-West conflict preoccupied Washington for four decades up to 1990, attention is now shifting to U.S. relations with the scores of nations outside North America, Japan and Europe that represent both a vast new economic market and a source of potential crises.

"These coun ries are critical," James Steinberg, deputy national security adviser to Clinton, says, noting the need to combat threats that cross national borders, such as weapons proliferation, drug trafficking and other crime, and infectious disease.

"There are things we can't succeed at unless they're part of the solution," Steinberg says.

"We also benefit from their markets. It's a win-win strategy for the U.S. and these countries."

The nations of the developing world, concentrated mostly near or below the equator, contain roughly 80 percent of the world's population but claim only 20 percent of its wealth.

With the Cold War past and the global economy the overriding fact of international life, these nations are no longer simply allies, proxies or pawns in a superpower conflict. Instead, they represent markets, trading partners and sources of labor.

Even now, the United States exports more goods to Brazil than to China and more to Mexico than to France and Germany combined. Southern Africa is a bigger trading partner with the United States than is the entire former Soviet Union.

These nations are also the source of many of the problems that are likely to preoccupy the in-

dustrialized world well into the next century, such as religious and ethnic warfare and the deteriora-

tion of the environment.

"Our broad strategy is to try to integrate developing countries into global trade and investment, and cooperation on a broad range of international problems," Steinberg says.

Economically, the nations of the developing world still don't count for much individually. But when regions become embroiled in a financial crisis, as recently happened in Asia, they can shake up markets throughout the industrialized world.

New major challenge

Bernard Aronson, the State Department's top Latin American official in the Bush administration who now manages investment in the region, says relations between the industrialized and developing worlds will replace the East-West divide as the major foreign policy challenge of the 21st century.

"The fastest-growing regional market is Latin America," Aronson says. In Africa as well, "there is beginning to be a recognition of

huge potential markets.

Only a decade ago, much of Latin America was marred by debt, dictatorships, drugs and unrest. Gen. Augusto Pinochet ruled Chile. Manuel Antonio Noriega's drug-corrupted regime controlled Panama. Shining Path Maoist guerrillas terrorized Peru.

Now, the administration points to the region as a showcase of democratic market economies.

Still, Latin America has failed to keep pace with economic hopes raised at the first Summit of the

Americas four years ago.

Lacking "fast track" authority from Congress to negotiate trade deals, Clinton has been unable to add Chile, among the most advanced of the economies, to the North American Free Trade Agreement, composed of the United States, Mexico and Canada. Clinton arrives in Chile today for a four-day visit.

While Latin America has conquered hyper-inflation, it contains pockets of mismanagement. And, as in Africa and Asia, growth in the region has failed to narrow the sizable gap between rich and poor, and in some cases has widened it.

Venezuela, the biggest oil supblier to the United States, has proved economically inept, says Viron Vaky, a senior fellow at the Inter-American Dialogue. The region's democratic trend, Vaky warns, could face setbacks in Venezuela, Colombia and Paraguay.

"There are storms on the horizon," he said.

Barriers to democracy

- Human rights violations by authorities in several Latin countries also defy the movement toward democracy, according to Carlos Salinas of Amnesty International. The Clinton administration will use the Summit of the Americas to stress the need to build the kinds of institutional foundation — such as a good educational system and an independent judiciary — that can preserve democracy.

("On average, Latin American children receive only seven years of schooling," Thomas "Mack" McLarty, Clinton's special envoy to Latin America, said recently. "Primary schools are underfunded, and some teachers supervise

up to 150 students.")

Not all U.S. initiatives - whether in Latin America or in the developing world generally - are quite

so benign.

By boosting military aid to Colombian authorities to combat narcotics traffickers, the United States is coming dangerously close to crossing a murky line and joining Colombia's war against leftist guerrillas, according to Coletta Youngers of the Washington Office on Latin America.

The drug war remains a faint echo of the Third World military activity that the United States used to support to contain com-

munism.

But American weapons manufacturers are beginning to look longingly toward the developing world as a growing market that can help ease the domestic pain of shrinking sales as a result of postCold War downsizing.

In the case of Latin America, the Clinton administration actually appears to be encouraging arms sales, in contrast to its determination to halt the proliferation of chemical, biological and nuclear weaponry worldwide.

"There's a strange disconnect between the [administration's] aggressive, vigilant monitoring of weapons of mass destruction and the complete lassitude with respect to conventional weapons," says Janne Nolan, an arms and security specialist at the Twentieth

Century Fund.

Despite the heightened White House attention to the developing world as shown by the presidential trips, there is still widespread doubt that this interest will be sustained when there is no visit to plan or crisis to manage.

"It indicates a growing interest," says Clovis Maksoud, director of the Center for the Global South at the American University. "But it doesn't guarantee delivery

of a commitment.'

Indeed, with its heavy emphasis on trade, the United States may be encouraging a new dividing line - between nations that have managed to join the global economy and those that have not.

"An awful lot of countries are still left out," says Jessica Mathews, president of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

The result, she says, is that the threats of global warming, disease and crime that cross economic and national boundaries and require genuine worldwide cooperation receive inadequate attention from policy-makers.

Richmond Times-Dispatch

April 16, 1998

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French workers report cannibalism in N. Korea

BEUING — Some North Koreans are resorting to cannibalism in a :desperate bid to survive their nation's famine, according to a report by French aid workers.

Representatives from Doctors Without Borders compiled a report from interviews they conducted along the Chinese border.

However, Catherine Bertini, ex-

ecutive director of the World Food Program who spent four days last week in North Korea, said she saw no evidence of cannibalism. According to the Doctors Without Borders report, a 23-year-old North Korean refugee interviewed in China told of his neighbors eating their daughter. It also said a Chinese-Korean who crosses the border for food and other essenhals said one woman ate her 2-year-old child.

Philadelphia Inquirer

April 16, 1998

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U.S. Middle East envoy Dennis Ross will arrive in Israel on Monday in another effort to advance stalled Israeli-Palestinian peacemaking, an Israeli official said yesterday. "Ross is arriving to continue talks on ways to advance the peace process," said David Bar-Illan, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's adviser.

Philadelphia Inquirer April 16, 1998

Mayor of Bosnian city bars mosque project

By Aida Cerkez ASSOCIATED PRESS

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina The mayor of Bosnia's largest Serb-held city has refused to allow an ancient mosque to be rebuilt - a decision that drew bitter reaction yesterday from Muslims.

The Ferhadija mosque, built in 1579 and a landmark in the city of Banja Luka, was blown up by Bosnian Serbs in 1993; the site was turned into a parking lot. Soon after, the city's remaining 16 mosques were blown up among the hundreds the Serbs destroyed in the 1992-95 war.

Regarding Banja Luka as the center of the new, more moderate Bosnian Serb government, Bosnia's Islamic community asked Mayor Diordie Umicevic to permit rebuilding of Ferhadija mosque. The top international official in Bosnia, Carlos Westendorp, backed the request.

But Umicevic was firm: "It would be an insult to the Serb people," he wrote back to Westendorp.

The rebuilding "would be perceived by the Serb people as the

darkest humiliation, it would open old wounds and have broad consequences," he wrote, adding that the mosque symbolized "the gravest days of slavery" of Orthodox Serbs - 500 years of Ottoman rule.

"Such language belongs to the past, while the [mayor] should be thinking about the future," Westendorp said, noting he has the power to remove Umicevic from office.

In Sarajevo, reaction was swift.

The mayor's arguments show how little has changed under the new Bosnian Serb government, said the Dnevni Avaz newspaper, likening the Banja Luka leadership to a wolf that has "changed its coat, but not its nature."

Safet Bico, leader of the Muslim deputies elected to the Bosnian Serb parliament in November's election, said the mayor had a unique chance to prove that something had changed.

Instead, he said, Umicevic had confirmed that officials backed the destruction of mosques.

The destruction of Islamic and Roman Catholic monuments was intended to further the Serbs' war aim of removing all signs of non-Orthodox religious life from the 70 percent of Bosnia they controlled during the country's 1992-95 war.

Bosnian Serb officials always denied any involvement in the destruction of mosques, saying it was the work of uncontrollable elements.

Only one mosque survived on Serb-controlled land — in Mrkonjic Grad in western Bosnia.

Roman Catholic Croats and Muslims also destroyed each other's monuments during the war.

Wall Street Journal

April 16, 1998

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The Irish peace accord was rejected by hard-line Protestant leaders, but Britain's prime minister urged Northern Ireland voters to ignore such voices. The Orange Order said it was urging defeat of the accord at a referendum due May 22, and firebrand Ian Paisley accused Britain of treachery.

Turkish troops clashed with Kurdish separatists in a big offensive near the Iraqi border, and claimed to kill 64 at the loss of 11 of their own. Ankara appears to be making good on its vow to drive out rebels after capturing one of their leaders this week.

At Presstime

Three senior Russian military officers killed in ambush

MOSCOW, April 16 (Reuters) - Three high-ranking officers were killed and several others wounded by unidentified gunmen who ambushed a Russian military column in the Caucasus region of North Ossetia today, Interfax news agency said.

It said a general and two colonels died when assailants fired at their cars with grenade launchers. A Defense Ministry spokesman confirmed the attack but said he had no information about casualties.

Interfax identified the general as Viktor Prokopenko of the General Staff. It also said Colonel-General Nikolai Mukhin, deputy commander of the artil-

lery and missile component of Russia's ground forces, was wounded.

The agency said Defense Minister Igor Sergeyev left a government meeting in Moscow to investigate the attack. There was no immediate word on who was behind the ambush.

North Ossetia, a predominantly Christian province surrounded by mainly Moslem neighbours in the North Caucasus, was used by the Russian army as a springboard and its main base during its ill-fated operation against the breakaway region of Chechnya in 1994-

Flag-Raiser's Family Sees Iwo Jima Courtesy of USMC

TOKYO (AP) The widow and children of a Marine who helped raise the American flag on Iwo Jima visited the battlescarred island courtesy of the Marine Corps, seeing for themselves the battlefield that he would rarely talk about.

The corps' commandant, Gen.

Charles Krulak, flew John H. Bradley's widow, Elizabeth, and four of his eight children to Iwo Jima scene of one of the key battles of World War II yesterday.

They were given a red-carpet welcome at the landing strip by the tiny island's only inhabitants Japanese military personnel.

It was the opportunity of a lifetime to actually walk the beaches where my husband walked," Mrs. Bradley, 74, of Antigo, Wis., said here today. "We are very thankful.

John Bradley, who died in 1994, was one of six men who raised the American flag atop Iwo Jima's Mount Suribachi on Feb. 23, 1945.

Like many veterans of the battle, Bradley rarely spoke of Iwo Jima at all. "He didn't feel that he was a hero, and he was embarrassed by all the attention, said James Bradley, one of his sons.

James said the family placed a small plaque in the shape of Wisconsin atop Suribachi in memory of their father.

"It was very emotional for us," he

(Complete wire copy available at CNS)

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